

### *VII. The Present One.*

The problem of the Church of to-day is with the laboring man, the man of toil, the man of the union or brotherhood, the man who is striving to make terms with capital, and who feels his power to-day as never before. This is the man to whom the Socialist appeals, whom he is trying to rouse to an appreciation of the truth that the improvement in his position rests entirely with himself, and that when he is finally convinced that political parties represent only the employing classes in their statesmanship, however much they must depend on *all* classes for support, he will rise and place his own representatives in the legislature of his country, and have it governed to favor those who produce, and secure to them a fair proportion of what they produce. The problem of the Church of to-day is with this man. Whether he is judging the Church harshly or not is a question not directly pertinent here. The point is that he does judge the Church, and already roused to a sense of his power by elaborate organizations extending to almost every sort of skilled human occupation and to many that require no particular skill, and with a smattering of knowledge about old controversies obtained from periodicals and from the cheap lecturer, the working man has arrived at the stage where he thinks he can ignore the Church. That is his position in thousands of cases. He needs leading, he requires the Gospel, and both are being supplied to him